

# United States Embassy Macedonia

## Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



*Global Articles for Your Interest  
Issue 1  
January 1 – January 31, 2012*

### **Contents:**

#### **1. State of the Union Address Deeply Rooted in American History**

President Obama's State of the Union address fulfills a constitutional obligation and follows a long-standing tradition, one dating back to 1790 when President George Washington delivered his "Annual Message" to Congress in New York City, then the provisional capital of the United States.

#### **2. American Electorate Has New Face for 2012 Race**

The composition of the U.S. electorate changes with every election. Find out how the voters to whom presidential candidates must appeal in 2012 differ from those that elected Barack Obama in 2008.

#### **3. Obama Has Overseen Major Shifts in U.S. Foreign Policy**

If the United States continues on the course President Obama has set, "I think we will see in 2016 the U.S. posture in the world will look very different than it did in 2008," says White House adviser Ben Rhodes.

#### **4. Why Global Economy Needs Investment in Women**

Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Melanne Verveer and President of the Women in the World Foundation Kim Azzarelli co-authored an opinion editorial that appeared January 30 on the *Newsweek* website. Verveer and Azzarelli underscore why the global economy needs the "other 51 percent."

#### **5. Super Bowl Sunday an Unofficial Holiday for Millions**

Each year, on a Sunday at the end of January or beginning of February, tens of millions of Americans declare their own unofficial holiday.

#### **6. Obama Announces Visa Process Improvements for Visitors to U.S.**

President Obama says the departments of State and Homeland Security are working together to speed up the visa process for foreign travelers to the United States.

## **In Case You Missed It:**

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### **[The 2012 State of the Union](#)**

President Obama (Jan. 24): "Think about the America within our reach...A future where we're in control of our own energy, and our security and prosperity aren't so tied to unstable parts of the world."

Also: [story](#) [video](#) [photos](#)



### **[Chargé Aggeler Opens the NITA conference](#)**

On January 23rd, Chargé d'Affaires Brian Aggeler gave opening remarks at an advocacy skills teacher training conference conducted by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) in Gevgelia. This was the second such conference designed to prepare judges, ...

Also: [story](#)



### **[DAS Reeker Visits Macedonia](#)**

On January 18, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Europe and Eurasia Philip T. Reeker attended four separate meetings with President Ivanov, Prime Minister Gruevski, Defense Minister Besimi, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Poposki. He discussed continued cooperation and NATO enlargement. ...



### **Macedonia Won Our Hearts**

Popular weekly magazine Tea Moderna features an interview with the Wohlers family during the festive holiday season. Ambassador Wohlers, his wife Mary Jo, and daughters Julia and Jessica talk about Macedonia, their diplomatic life, and the Christmas tradition. [See this interview as published \(in Macedonian\) - Tea Moderna website. »](#)

- **PDY for Study of Journalism/Mass Communication Program 2012-2013**

The PDY program is designed to foster professionalism among the media in Macedonia by bringing practitioners to the US ...

- **Young Atlanticists program - Call for applications.**

This program, run by the Atlantic Council with support from a USNATO and US Dept. of State, is accepting applications from young leaders (ages 25-35). ...

- **Ron Brown Apprentice Program - Business Plan Competition**

The Embassy is seeking entries from university students for the Ron Brown Apprentice Program. ...

**For All Embassy News go to:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

**Small Grants information:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/grants.html>

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